

Statewide Planning for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

A 2-1/2 year long statewide community-driven process has led to the creation of a prioritized list of projects for commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial in Washington. The planning process began in the Fall of 1998 and continues to date through regular coordination with tribes, local communities, and local, regional, state, and federal agencies.

A state agency team that includes the Washington State Historical Society as the lead agency, and the Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Transportation, Tourism Office, and Department of fish and wildlife is coordinating the planning process.

An important goal of the project has been to assist local communities in defining their interests and project needs related to commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, in anticipation of the national commemoration period that will last from 2003 through 2007. Originally, over 150 interpretive and tourism related projects were identified statewide. A draft plan of recommendations for commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, published in 1999, recognized all of these projects, and then prioritized them, based on publicly generated criteria (see attached). High priority and secondary priority projects were first identified, and then, ultimately, a list of the top priority projects in need of immediate attention was assembled and presented to the public for review and comment in the fall of 2000 (see attached).

Over the course of the planning process, over 30 public meetings have been held in communities across the state. Public meetings and workshops were held during the following months to gain community input on projects and activities for commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

- October 1998
- December 1998
- May 1999
- October 1999
- September 2000
- December 2000

All of these efforts have culminated in the attached list of priority projects for commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. These are the top priority interpretive projects as identified and prioritized during the 2-1/2 year community outreach process. Periodically, new projects are identified, evaluated according the criteria developed through the public process, and added to the list. The list also is updated to reflect progress made on implementation of projects. The most important criteria identified early on in the

process was "Relationship to the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition." Thus, a strong correlation remains between any project on the list, and its site's location and relevance to Lewis and Clark Expedition history.

Washington's Top Priority Projects For Commemorating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition

1	Station Camp / Lewis and Clark Campsite State Park	Pacific County, Near Chinook
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2	Fort Canby State Park	Pacific County, Near Ilwaco
3	Sacajawea State Park and Interpretive Center	Tri-Cities, Washington
4	The Confluence Center	Asotin County, in Clarkston
5	Horsethief Lake State Park	Klickitat County, Near Dallesport
6	Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge	Clark County, north of Vancouver
7	Steigerwald Lake / Cottonwood Beach / Steamboat Landing (Only includes Lewis and Clark interpretation portion of project)	Clark County, near Camas/Washougal
8	Wallula Wayside Interpretive Site	Walla Walla County, near Wallula
8	Lewis and Clark Discovery Trail/Pacific County Phase 1	Pacific County, Long Beach to Ilwaco
9	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Homelands Project	Umatilla and Morrow counties, Oregon and Southeast Washington
10	Lewis and Clark Discovery Trail/Pacific County Phase 2	Pacific County, Chinook to Megler or Knappton
11	Lewis and Clark Trail State Park	Columbia County, between Dayton and Waitsburg
12	Beacon Rock State Park	Skamania County, Columbia River Gorge
13	Chief Timothy State Park and Alpowai Interpretive Center	Asotin County, west of Clarkston
14	Western Waters Multi-Site Sculptural Project / Snake and Columbia Rivers	Multiple sites: Clearwater/Snake Confluence; Snake/Columbia Confluence; Willamette/Columbia Confluence; Arrival at Pacific Ocean
15	Megler Rest Area	Pacific County, east of Chinook
15	Long Beach Peninsula Commemorative Element	Pacific County, near Long Beach
15	Sacagawea Heritage Trail, Tri-Cities	Benton and Franklin Counties, Tri-Cities

16	Lewis and Clark Discovery Trail / Pacific County Phase 3	Pacific County, Ilwaco to Chinook
17	Lyons Ferry State Park	Along Snake River,
18	Snake River Bicycling and Driving Tour	Along Snake River, Whitman County
19	Doug's Beach State Park	Klickitat County, Near Lyle
19	Vancouver Discovery Trail Interpretation and Signing	Clark County, in Vancouver
19	Lake Sacajawea in Longview Sculptural Project	Cowlitz County, in Longview
20	Wanapum Replica Village	Tri-Cities area; Sacagawea Trail Riverfront
21	Three Forks Indian Trail Roadside Interpretive Marker (Project would include construction of roadside pull-off area on north side of highway.)	Garfield County, Washington
21	Crow Butte State Park	Benton County
21	Maryhill State Park	Klickitat County
21	Snake River Trail Extension from Clarkston to Chief Timothy and Clarkston to Wawawai	Whitman and Asotin Counties
22	Skamokawa Vista Park / Columbia River Heritage Canoe Trailhead	Wahkiakum County, near Skamokawa
23	Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge / Steamboat Slough Drive (Includes only Lewis and Clark interpretation portion of project)	Wahkiakum County, near Cathlamet

Criteria for Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Projects in Washington

Basic Criteria:

The following basic criteria were developed based on public input at ten public meetings held in the fall and winter of 1998 in towns and cities along the Lewis and Clark Trail in Washington. The basic criteria was used to determine high priority projects and recommendations from the full list of recommendations in the Draft Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Interpretive and Tourism Plan for Washington State. Criterion point values were assigned and weighted based on public input on the relative importance of each criterion. Criterion number 5 "Tie to history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" was ranked the most important criterion by the public, and therefore was given the highest point value."

No.	Criteria	Assigned Point Values		
1	Level of visitor services and facilities	9	8	7

1	The level of visitor facilities and services at the site or in the nearby vicinity can adequately accommodate travelers (or could with proposed improvements of the project.)	9	8	7
2	Nearby tourism and recreational opportunities	3	2	1
	There are a variety of tourism and recreational			
	opportunities located nearby in the vicinity or region.			

3	Ease of public access/wayfinding	9	8	7
	The site is publicly accessible (open to the general			
	public) and "not too far off the beaten path."			
4	Proximity of scenic areas	3	2	1
	The site is located in proximity to scenic areas,			
	including scenery relevant to the history of the Lewis			
	and Clark Expedition			
5	Tie to history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition	12	11	10
	The site/project has a significant relationship to the			
	history of the Expedition and/or Native American			
	cultures that interacted with the Corps of Discovery on			
	their journey; and there are opportunities to provide			
	interpretation from the Native American perspective.			
6	Supportive of tribal goals and/or local goals and	6	5	4
	community objectives			
	The project forwards local plans or is supported by			
	tribes and/or local representatives			
7	Stewardship/preservation needs	6	5	4
	The project is located on a site that has stewardship			
	and/or preservation needs, or through the project			
	implementation, there is an opportunity to protect			
	sensitive aspects of the site or preserve important			
	historic or cultural resources.			
8	Recreational potential at the site	3	2	1
	There are either existing recreational facilities at the			
	site or opportunities to expand recreational facilities in			
	association with the project.			
9	Funding opportunities	6	5	4
	There appear to be a variety of applicable funding			
	opportunities for the project.			
10	Property owner/manager supportive	9	8	7
	The owner/manager of the site is generally supportive			
	of the project.			
11	Permit-able and construct-able before 2004	9	8	7
	The project can be planned, designed, permitted,			
	constructed, and made available for use by 2004.			

Bonus Point Structure:

In the fall of 2000, the high priority project list was updated to create a list of top priority projects in order to bring focus to those projects that needed immediate attention in order to be implemented prior to the bicentennial. The importance of each project's relationship to Lewis and Clark history continued to remain a significant factor to the public. Also, it was important to give credit to those projects that had made progress and appeared to be moving forward due to the proponent's efforts. Therefore, two bonus point categories were developed and applied to the project list:

Historical Significance Bonus Points

The Lewis and Clark Trail [Washington State] Governor's Committee assisted with evaluation of the historic significance of projects in accordance with the following criteria:

Points: Criteria:

1	Site is located directly on the historic trail
2	Important geographic feature of reference; strong relationship to journal
3	Retains name given by Lewis and Clark; significant encounter with Native
	Americans occurred at site/vicinity; historic campsite at or visible from site
4	Multiple-day campsite; important events; or river confluences
5	Single day campsite; highly significant events

"Progress Made" Bonus Points

Bonus points were given to projects that had made some progress since originally conceptualized in accordance with the following criteria:

Points: Criteria:

1	A sponsor/agency/organization exists to lead the project.
2	The lead organization is actively pursuing funding and taking the project forward.
3	Some funding has been obtained already.
4	Some funding has been obtained and work on the project has progressed to the next
	stage/phase.
5	Some type of improvements have been constructed/installed at the site.